

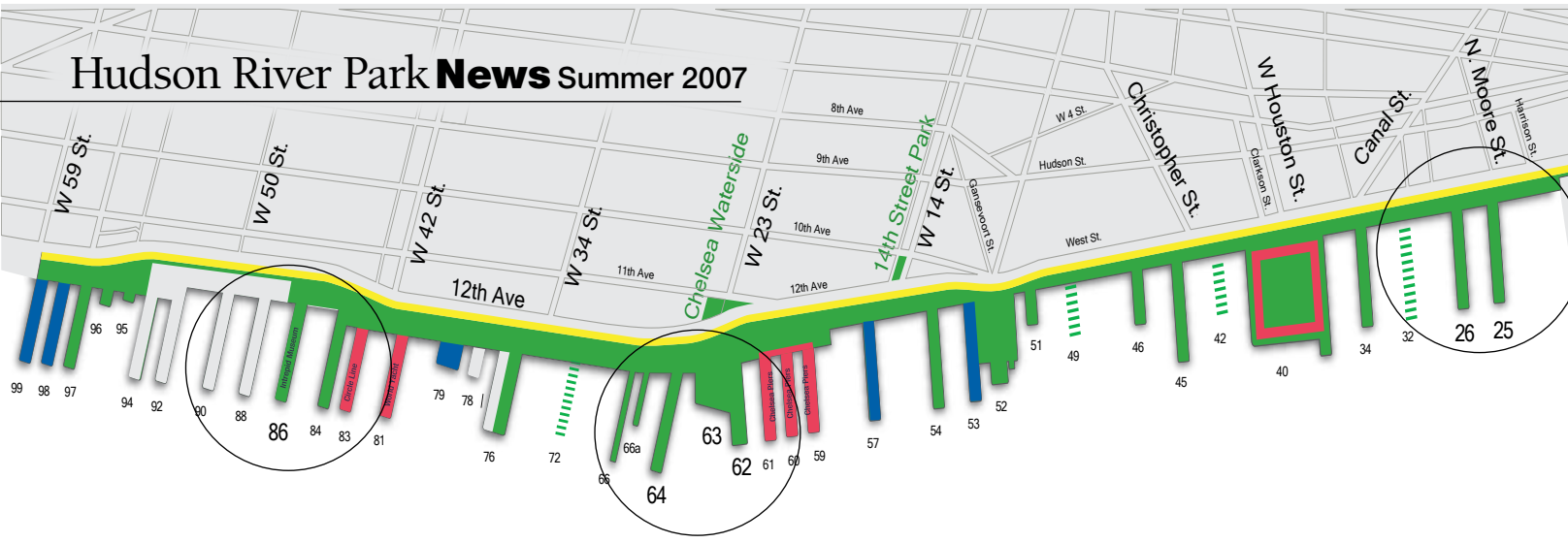
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Hudson River Park



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CONSTRUCTION CONTINUES THIS SUMMER ON SIX OF HUDSON RIVER PARK'S PIERS: 86, 64, 63, 62, 26, & 25.

## COMING SOON

With much of Chelsea and Tribeca under construction, a large area of the future park is underway. By roughly three years from now, almost 80 percent of the new Park will be built and open to the public. This will nearly double the amount of park space currently available

on this part of the Manhattan waterfront. Although we know that construction creates temporary closures and inconveniences the public, it will all be worth it in the end, when we have twice as much grass, trees, water access, and recreation to provide to New Yorkers.

# THE CHANGING FACE OF NEW YORK

## YOUR HUDSON RIVER PARK

*For many years Hudson River Park has been referred to as a "work in progress." To a large degree this is still true; however with over a third of the Park now complete, there are many new areas open for the use and enjoyment of the public. This Newsletter is devoted to the completed portions of your Hudson River Park and all of the wonderful sites and sounds it has to offer.*

The 550 acre Hudson River Park stretches five miles from Battery Place all the way to 59th Street along the Hudson River. The Park and the Hudson River Park Trust — the entity charged with designing, building, operating and maintaining it — were created in 1998 when the Hudson River Park Act was signed into law, concluding more than two decades of public

and private efforts to revitalize Manhattan's Westside Waterfront. When fully complete the Park will include a continuous waterside esplanade and bikeway, 13 new public piers for passive and active recreation, a marine sanctuary and a variety of boating facilities, sports fields, gardens, and green lawns.

### WHAT EXACTLY IS HUDSON RIVER PARK ANYWAY?

*Look inside . . .*



## CLINTON COVE



Named for former New York Governor Dewitt Clinton who served in the early 19th Century, Hudson River Park's Clinton Cove is located between 54th and 57th Streets in the northernmost section of the Park. Formerly the City's municipal concrete plant, Clinton Cove incorporates many spectacular features, including a sweeping green lawn with trees and a striking boathouse that can accommodate kayaks, canoes and other small non-motorized vessels. Supplementing its beautiful landscaping and boating activities, the Cove has an extraordinary feature called a "get-down" which allows visitors to get closer to the water – below the level of the bulkhead – and experience the Hudson River at a more intimate scale.

In addition to the land and river based-features, Clinton Cove includes the first permanent public sculpture commissioned as part of the development of the Hudson River Park: a site-specific art installation by artist Malcolm Cochran, "Private Passage" – a 30 foot long, 8'6" diameter wine bottle resting on its side, within which is an interpretation of a stateroom based loosely on photographs of the ocean liner *R.M.S. Queen Mary*. "Private Passage" was created in participation with the *New York City Percent for Art* program, which is administered through the Department of Cultural Affairs.

## CHELSEA WATERSIDE



Located between 22nd and 24th Streets from the West Side Highway (12th Avenue) to 11th Avenue, the two and a half acre Chelsea Waterside section of the Park reflects the area's past through its use of rough granite walls—reminiscent of 19th Century waterfront bulkheads—which form its eastern, western and northern perimeters; these are mixed with more modern features such as stainless steel fencing and pylons, brightly colored sculptures and materials, and state-of-the-art play equipment.

In addition to its one-acre sports field, basketball court and heavily used dog run (named 'Best of New York' by *New York Magazine* in 2005), Chelsea Waterside

also includes a colorful playground and water park designed to accommodate children of a wide range of age groups and those with disabilities. The equipment is manufactured by *Kompan*, a Danish company that specializes in the creation of unique play environments. The theme of the Chelsea Waterside playground's "Galaxy Class" equipment is "access for all" – referring to the fact that every activity has access from the ground – permitting children of many different ages and abilities to participate. Children can climb, spin, rock and experiment in unique ways with the various pieces while parents and caregivers relax under the playful shade umbrellas.



## CHELSEA NORTH

The northern part of Hudson River Park's Chelsea section offers an array of passive and active recreation including boating opportunities, historic elements and public art. Three blocks of habitat enhancing landscape from 26th Street to 29th Street designed to attract birds, butterflies and other insects are accompanied by the newly reconstructed Piers 66 and 66a – each of which has something unique to offer park visitors.

Hudson River Park's Pier 66a is actually a restored Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Float Bridge. The bridge was utilized as a means of transporting goods by rail car via cross-Hudson barges from New Jersey for delivery to the B&O Freight Terminal in Manhattan. It was frequently used to transport cars containing cattle and sheep to stockyards that existed just north of its current location. The Float Bridge fell into disrepair after its final crossing in 1973 and was partially submerged until 2001 when the New York State Department of Transportation and Hudson River Park teamed up to lift it from the water and transfer it to Staten Island for restoration. In 2003, the restored Float Bridge returned to 26th Street and began its new life as a viewing platform, small boat launch, fishing pier and an historic element of Hudson River Park.

Just north of the Float Bridge is Pier 66 which stretches 500 feet into the Hudson River and has many extraordinary features including a new boathouse for kayaks and canoes and slips for sailboats and other small craft. But the pier's most unique feature is a dynamic and kinetic public artwork – "Long Time", by local artist Paul Ramirez Jonas. "Long Time", a 26-foot diameter water wheel constructed of stainless steel, harkens back to the river's milling history and turns unpredictably with the tide and wind. The piece presents a striking vision as the sun sets behind it and light is reflected off its spokes and paddles.

A second work of art, "Two Too Large Tables", by Allan and Ellen Wexler, is located in the upland area near 29th Street. The work is an interactive two-part piece that encourages the visitor to become part of the sculpture itself. The first part contains a large horizontal plane supported by a series of chairs under which patrons can sit, as if underneath a table; the second part of the piece consists of a zigzagging table within which are irregularly placed chairs, allowing visitors to sit inside the table. The placement of the two tables and chairs choreographs one's views of the river, the landscape and the city.

The completion of Chelsea North marks the arrival of the first phase of the larger Chelsea section of Hudson River Park. The next phase will incorporate Chelsea Cove, which includes Piers 64, 63 and 62, and the great upland lawn slated for completion at the end of 2009.



## PIER 84



Situated between the Intrepid Sea-Air-Space Museum (currently under repair in a Bayonne, New Jersey dry dock), and the well-traveled Circle Line and World Yacht Cruise ships, Hudson River Park's Pier 84 has a long history. Prior to falling into disrepair in the 1980's, when it was used by the City as a parking lot, Pier 84 was one of the Cunard Line's passenger ship piers, making it the arrival place for thousands of immigrants to the U.S. in the early 20th Century. From there they were shuttled by ferry boat to Ellis Island for processing. In the 1990s a group of community activists created the *Friends of Pier 84* to advocate for its reopening to the public as open space and for incorporation into the Hudson River Park plan. As a result, the Pier was designated a new public park pier in the Hudson River Park Act in 1998.

Now restored to its former glory, Hudson River Park's Pier 84 stretches 1,000 feet out into the river and measures nearly 100,000 square feet, making it one of the largest piers on the Manhattan waterfront. It is entirely open to the public. Pier 84 offers spectacular vistas of the Hudson along with multiple active and passive activities. Its amenities include a plaza with programmed interactive fountain, a café, park store, bike rental concession and water exploration area for children. Also part of the pier is a brand new boathouse and classroom, green lawn, community garden, dog run, and an open western end for public gatherings and quiet enjoyment of the river. At the end of the Pier is a hook-shaped platform reminiscent of the original one used to help guide the passenger ships into their berth when the Pier was used for docking ocean liners.





## ESPLANADE SOUTH

Last year, the opening of the “Promenade South” marked the completion of the first phase of the Lower Manhattan segment of Hudson River Park. The Promenade South spans the stretch of Route 9A/West Street between West Thames Street and Battery Place. The project has transformed a utilitarian roadway into a beautiful, landscaped thoroughfare with a broad, tree-lined, granite-paved walkway lined with stone walls, gardens and benches. A separate bikeway lies between the roadway and the promenade. The once-narrow eastern sidewalk has been widened and paved with granite to complement the residential and commercial activity flourishing nearby.



## 14TH STREET PARK

Serving as a green oasis in the bustling Meat Packing District, Hudson River Park’s 14th Street Park is located just across West Street at 14th Street and 10th Avenue. The Park has an elegant raised oval of grass as its main feature, surrounded by fixed wrought-iron furniture, trees, flowers, and a playful and distinctive fence. It provides office workers and visitors with a backyard setting for rest and relaxation. The Park sits just outside the Chelsea Market – a self-described “one stop culinary food shop, a gourmet lover’s wholesale-retail wonder world, and an energetic, industrial-chic hotspot, all meshed into a million square feet of space, along an historical 800-foot concourse on the most unique city block in Manhattan.”



## GREENWICH VILLAGE



The Greenwich Village section of Hudson River Park runs from Clarkson Street to Gansevoort Street and includes three new public piers, a playground, and a display fountain at Christopher Street, along with a comfort station, dog run, outdoor café, lawns and gardens. This first fully completed section of the Park opened in 2003 and has garnered numerous awards for design and engineering and brought millions of new visitors to the waterfront in just a few short years.

Each of Greenwich Village’s three new piers has its own unique features. Pier 45 is the largest of the three, measuring nearly 84,000 square feet and stretching 900 feet out into the Hudson. Pier 45 features a large lawn and a beautiful boardwalk, tree-shaded sitting areas, and fanciful tensile-fabric canopy structures that are illuminated at night, providing a lovely glow out on the river.

Pier 46 measures roughly 31,000 square feet and contains an artificial recreation field made of *FieldTurf*, a synthetic surface that looks and feels almost like real grass. This area remains open throughout the year providing an open recreation space for kicking a ball, tossing a Frisbee or just lying down for a much needed riverside snooze.

Pier 51 is about 18,500 square feet and features a playground and water park. The Pier has become a favorite spot for children around the city, as it allows them to play with sand and water in a playground that is traversed by an interactive stream containing bronze inlays of aquatic life native to the Hudson River. In addition to providing an exciting place to play and cool off from the hot summer sun, the stream allows children to learn about the principles of flowing water and Hudson River ecology.

## BIKE PATH

Hudson River Park’s Bike Path was built by the New York State Department of Transportation as part of the State’s Route 9A Project and runs the entire 5-mile length of the Park. The path lies immediately west of Route 9A and runs by access points to all of the Park’s attractions. The Bikeway has an average usage of over 3,000 people per hour on the weekends and slightly lower during the week. In addition to being one of Hudson River Park’s most popular amenities, the Bike Path also serves as part of the Manhattan Greenway, the East Coast Greenway, and Hudson River Valley Greenway, which is designed as a route of scenic, natural, historic, cultural and recreational resources throughout the Hudson River Valley. The Hudson River Park Bike Path functions as an important connection for cyclists traveling from Battery Park all the way up to Albany.

